

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USBERL 02266 300720Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PM-05 NSC-05
SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00 EB-08 LAB-04 SIL-01 PRS-01
/061 W

-----109053 300740Z /14

R 300600Z AUG 77
FM USMISSION USBERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5191
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 2266

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: US, GW, WB, OVIP
SUBJECT: STOBBE WASHINGTON TRIP: BERLIN FOLLOW-UP ASPECTS

1. I SAW GOVERNING MAYOR STOBBE 29 AUGUST TO DISCUSS WASHINGTON TRIP, PARTICULARLY TO ASK IF THERE IS ANYTHING ON WHICH MISSION FOLLOW-UP MIGHT BE USEFUL. HE IS VERY HAPPY, SAYS THAT THINGS COULD NOT HAVE GONE BETTER, AND THAT HE FOUND PRESIDENT AND ALL OTHERS WITH WHOM HE MET BOTH WELL-INFORMED ABOUT BERLIN MATTERS AND FULLY SUPPORTIVE OF CONTINUED FREEDOM AND VIABILITY OF CITY.

2. STOBBE SAID THERE WERE TWO THINGS HE WOULD APPRECIATE FOLLOW-UP ON. ONE IS ANY ASSISTANCE USG CAN GIVE ON FORD PROJECT, IN PARTICULAR WITH GETTING FORD AGREEMENT TO RECEIVE BERLIN GROUP IN DETROIT, FOR PURPOSE EXPLAINING BERLIN OFFER MORE FULLY, INCLUDING CERTAIN SPECIAL LABOR FORCE INDUCEMENTS BERLIN PREPARED OFFER. I TOLD HIM I THOUGHT THIS WAS IN TRAIN AND THAT I WAS CONFIDENT HIS RECENT LETTER TO UNDER SECRETARY HARMAN HAD BEEN BROUGHT TO AMBASSADOR STOESEL'S ATTENTION.

3. OTHER IS ASSISTANCE IN ARRANGING MAKE BEST POSSIBLE USE OF SECRETARY BLUMENTHAL'S TIME IN PLANNED NOVEMBER VISIT.
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HE SAID HE HAS SOME IDEAS WHICH HE WILL PASS ON TO ME NEXT FEW DAYS. MISSION EXPECTS MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR VISIT ARRANGEMENTS THROUGH EMBASSY IN EARLY SEPTEMBER, AS WAS AGREED WITH AMBASSADOR STOESEL PRIOR HIS DEPARTURE ON LEAVE.

4. STOBBE SAID HE REGRETTED THERE WAS NO CHANCE DISCUSS

FRIENDSHIP FORCE VISIT TO BERLIN WITH PRESIDENT. HE DID HOWEVER DISCUSS WITH WHITE HOUSE STAFF MEMBER, WHO TOLD HIM HE THOUGHT PLANNING IS GOING FORWARD ON VISIT TO HAMBURG. STOBBE WAS SORRY HEAR THIS, AS HE HOPED GET VISIT TO BERLIN FIRST, AND SAID HE ASKED FRG EMBASSY OFFICIAL (PERHAPS HANSEN) TO SEE IF HAMBURG PLANNING COULD IN EFFECT MARK TIME UNTIL BERLINERS CAN GET ORGANIZED TO INVITE VISIT. HE RECOGNIZES NON-GOVERNMENTAL NATURE OF FRIENDSHIP FORCE PROJECT, AND IS TRYING LOCATE PRIVATE SPONSOR HERE, PERHAPS STEUBEN SCHURZ FOUNDATION, TO SERVE AS CATALYST GROUP TO INVITE VISIT AND WORK OUT DETAILS WITH FRIENDSHIP FORCE ORGANIZATION.

5. AS RELATIVELY MINOR THING BUT ONE STOBBE WANTS STRAIGHTEN OUT, PRESS HERE FOCUSED HEAVILY ON PRESIDENT'S INVITATION OT TELEPHONE HIM DIRECTLY IF THERE WAS TROUBLE IN BERLIN, IMPLYING THAT THERE MIGHT BE FAIRLY FREQUENT STOBBE-CARTER TELEPHONE COMMUNICATION. STOBBE SAID THIS WAS NONSENSE, AND THAT HE HAD GIVEN PRESS INTERVIEW OVER WEEKEND HERE TO PUT MATTER IN PERSPECTIVE. HE TOLD SPD PAPER INTERVIEWER IT IS TRUE PRESIDENT MENTIONED POSSIBILITY OF DIRECT CALL IF NEEDED, PERHAPS TO BE MADE TOGETHER WITH CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT. SUCH POSSIBILITY WOULD HOWEVER BE EXERCISED ONLY IN EVENT SOME MATTER OF GRAVEST IMPORTANCE NEEDED BE BROUGHT TO PRESIDENT'S ATTENTION IMMEDIATELY, STOBBE SAID, AND CONFIDENTIAL

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CERTAINLY WOULD NOT BE RESORTED TO FOR ORDINARY BERLIN PROBLEMS. GEORGE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977USBERL02266
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770312-1146
Format: TEL
From: USBERLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977086/aaaaaeqf.tel
Line Count: 96
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 7c13635a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1595718
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: STOBBE WASHINGTON TRIP: BERLIN FOLLOW-UP ASPECTS
TAGS: OVIP, US, GE, WB
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/7c13635a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009